

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the review and consideration of the present application.

The Examiner's Office Action dated December 9, 2004 has been received and its contents reviewed.

In light of the Examiner's determination, Applicant decided to amend Claims 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 15, 16 and 17, to cancel Claims 7 and 14, and to add new Claims 22, 23, 24 and 25.

Reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the pending claims in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

35 USC § 103 Rejections

Claims 1-21

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-21 under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art in view of Ikeda et al. (US patent No.: 6,067,284, hereinafter referred as IKEDA).

Claims 1 and 15

One of the features of the present invention, referring to amended Claims 1 and 15 described above, is a method or means for calibrating a writing optical power of an optical storage carrier player, and the optical storage carrier player comprises an access device for writing data onto an optical storage carrier. The optical storage carrier comprises a central portion, a data storage area located outside the central portion, and an outer power calibration area located outside the data storage area. A starting point of the outer power calibration area is

outside a starting point of the last possible lead-out area. Therefore, the calibration method of the present invention can be performed in the outer portion of the disk outside the starting point of the lead-out area. The so-called lead-out areas substantially restrict the range of reading or writing data on the disk. In contrast, IKEDA discloses a method and an apparatus for adjusting power of an optical storage device. IKEDA discloses that a test writing area is used for the test writing at the time of the light emission adjustment, and a non-user 236 on the inner side or a non-user area 238 on the outer side for a user-area 234 is allocated to a power adjusting area (FIG. 7, and Lines 4-8, Columns 18). The non-user areas 236 and 238 described in the IKEDA are different from so-called lead-out areas. As mentioned above, the lead-out areas substantially restrict the range of reading or writing data on the disk. Thus, the lead-out area, namely, the portion outside the starting point of the lead-out area, is not "recordable" in normal conditions. However, the non-user areas 236 and 238 described in the IKEDA can be "initialization recorded by erasing (Lines 20-22, Columns 18)," which implies that the so-called non-user areas are different from lead out areas that cannot be recorded. IKEDA therefore doesn't teach any calibration method in a lead-out area. Thus, Claims 1 and 15 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the prior art in view of the IKEDA.

Claims 8 and 22

Another feature of the present invention is described in amended Claims 8 and 22. Claim 8 describes an optical storage carrier player for use with an optical storage carrier. The optical storage carrier includes an inner power calibration area located close to the central portion, a data storage area located outside the inner power calibration area, and an outer power calibration area located outside the data storage area. According to the specific information, a control apparatus determines performing the optical power calibration in the inner power calibration area or in the

outer power calibration area. In one embodiment, the inner power calibration area has a count area for recoding the specific information. The specific information is a number count of the optical power calibrations already performed in the inner calibration area. Referring to Figs. 3 and 4, the outer power calibration area 52 is located outside the data storage area 46, and the starting point 58 of the outer power calibration area 52 is outside the starting point 50 of the last possible lead-out area 48 (please also refer to the paragraphs 2-4 of the detailed description of the present invention). Similarly, Claim 22 describes a method for calibrating a writing optical power. It also discloses how to calibrate the writing optical power by a specific information. However, IKEDA doesn't disclose a calibrating method that includes determining which calibration area is to be used by any specific information. Thus, Claims 8 and 22 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the admitted prior art in view of the IKEDA.

Other dependent Claims

As for the same reasons stated above, other dependent Claims are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the prior art in view of the IKEDA.


Even all the mentioned citations combined do not expressly or impliedly teach or suggest how to calibrate the optical power in the lead-out area, and they don't disclose a calibration method that includes determining which calibration area is used by any specific information (or a number count), which are important features of the present invention.

CONCLUSIONS

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed. The Applicant therefore respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is also believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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